



Express Mailing Label No. EL819963175

PATENT APPLICATION

Docket No: 13861.21.2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re application of | |) | |
| | |) | |
| | Blatter et al. |) | |
| | |) | |
| Serial No.: | 09/736,937 |) | |
| | |) | |
| Filed: | December 14, 2000 |) | Art Unit |
| | |) | _____ |
| Title: | LOCKING COMPRESSION PLATE |) | |
| | ANASTOMOSIS APPARATUS |) | |
| | |) | |
| | |) | |
| Examiner: | _____ |) | |

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please find, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(1), the enclosed Form PTO-1449 which contains a list of all patents, publications, or other items that have come to the attention of one or more of the individuals designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c). While no representation is made that any of these references may be "prior art" within the meaning of that term under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 or 103, the enclosed list of references is disclosed so as to fully comply with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

Moreover, while no representation is made that a specific search of office files or patent office records has been conducted or that no better art exists, the undersigned attorney of record

believes that the enclosed art is the closest to the claimed invention (taken in its entirety) of which the undersigned is presently aware, and no art which is closer to the claimed invention (taken in its entirety) has been knowingly withheld.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, a copy of each of the listed references or relevant portion thereof is also enclosed.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(c), all English translations within the possession, custody, control or availability of anyone designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) of each nonenglish reference, if any, are also enclosed.

Since all listed references are either in the English language or are accompanied by a translation into English, no concise explanation of relevance is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3).

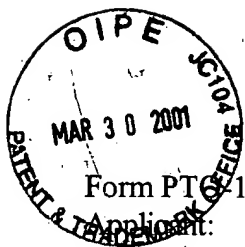
DATED this 30TH day of March, 2001.

Respectfully submitted,



Kevin B. Laurence
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 38,219

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Sheet 1 of 11

Applicant:

Blatter et al.

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COMPRESSION PLATE ANASTOMOSIS
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Att'y Docket No. 13861.21.1

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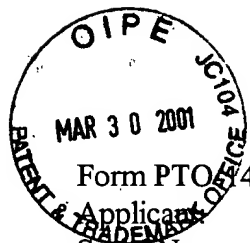
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATIONS MADE BY APPLICANTU.S. Patent Documents

| <u>Examiner Initial*</u> | <u>Patent Number</u> | <u>Issue Date</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>Class</u> | <u>Sub Class</u> | <u>Filing Date</u> |
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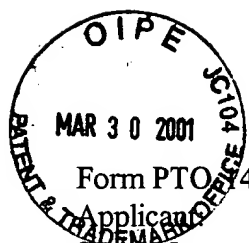
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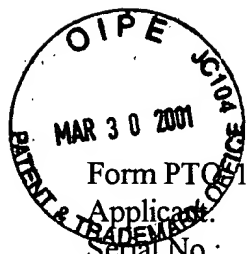
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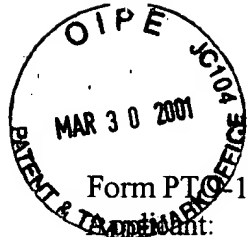
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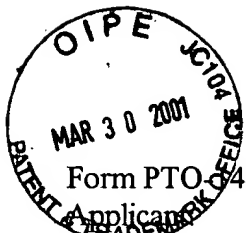
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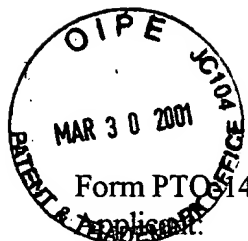
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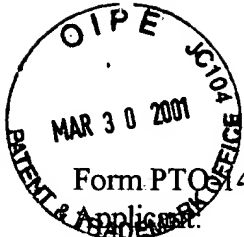
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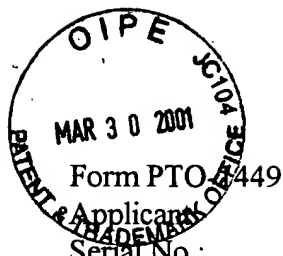
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Examiner:

Date Considered:

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609, draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.



Form PTO-1449

Applicant:

Serial No.:

Filing Date:

Title:

Blatter et al.

09/736,937

December 14, 2000

COMPRESSION PLATE ANASTOMOSIS
APPARATUS

Express Mail Label No. EL819963175US

Sheet 10 of 11

Att'y Docket No. 13861.21.1

Group: _____

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

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While the filing of Information Disclosure Statements is voluntary, the procedure is governed by the guidelines of Section 609 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. To be considered a proper Information Disclosure Statement, Form PTO-1449 shall be accompanied by a copy of each listed patent or publication or other item of information and a translation of the pertinent portions of foreign documents (if an existing translation is readily available to the applicant), an explanation of relevance of each reference not in the English language, and should be submitted in a timely manner as set out in MPEP Sec. 609.

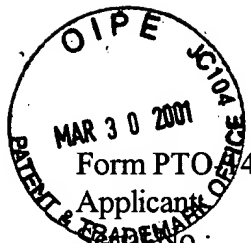
Examiners will consider all citations submitted in conformance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 and MPEP Sec. 609 and place their initials adjacent the citations in the spaces provided on this form. Examiners will also initial citations not in conformance with the guidelines which may have been considered. A reference may be considered by the Examiner for any reason whether or not the citation is in full conformance with the guidelines. A line will be drawn through a citation if it is not in conformance with the guidelines AND has not been considered. A copy of the submitted form, as reviewed by the Examiner, will be returned to the applicant with the next communication. The original of the form will be entered into the application file.

Each citation initialed by the Examiner will be printed on the issued patent in the same manner as references cited by the Examiner on Form PTO-892.

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Sheet 11 of 11

Form PTO/A-449

Applicant:

Blatter et al.

Serial No.:

09/736,937

Filing Date:

December 14, 2000

Title:

COMPRESSION PLATE ANASTOMOSIS
APPARATUS

Att'y Docket No. 13861.21.1

Group: _____

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

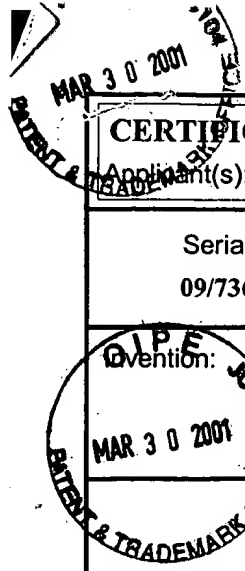
The reference designations "A1," "A2," etc. (referring to Applicant's reference 1, Applicant's reference 2, etc.) will be used by the Examiner in the same manner as Examiner's reference designations "A," "B," "C," etc. on Office Action Form PTO-1142.

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" (37 CFR 1.10)

Applicant(s): **Blatter et al.**

Docket No.

13861.21.2

Serial No.

09/736,937

Filing Date

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Group Art Unit

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Invention: **LOCKING COMPRESSION PLATE ANASTOMOSIS APPARATUS**

I hereby certify that this **Information Disclosure Statement (including the items listed below)**

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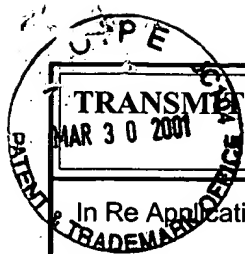
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TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
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Docket No.
13861.21.2

In Re Application Of: **Blatter et al.**

Serial No.
09/736,937

Filing Date
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Title: **LOCKING COMPRESSION PLATE ANASTOMOSIS APPARATUS**

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37 CFR 1.97(b)

1. ☒ The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing of a national application; within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurs last.

37 CFR 1.97(c)

2. ☐ The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed after three months of the filing of a national application, or the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; or after the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever occurred last but before the mailing date of either:

1. a Final Action under 37 CFR 1.113, or
2. a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311,

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Also submitted herewith is:

- ☐ a certification as specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e);

OR

- ☐ the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) for submission of an Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(c).

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))

Docket No.

13861.21.2

In Re Application Of: Blatter et al.

Serial No.

09/736,937

Filing Date

December 14, 2000

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Title: **LOCKING COMPRESSION PLATE ANASTOMOSIS APPARATUS**

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Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 38,219

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